

# Year 3 English Curriculum Overview

In Year 3, children build on the foundations of Key Stage 1 and begin to develop greater independence as readers, writers, and speakers. The focus is on **confidence, accuracy, and creativity** across reading, writing, spelling, grammar, and spoken language.

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## Reading

Children will:

- Develop **fluency** and expression when reading aloud.
  - Use a range of strategies to understand new vocabulary.
  - Make **inferences and predictions** about what they read.
  - Discuss characters, settings, and themes in greater detail.
  - Enjoy a wide variety of texts, including:
    - Stories and novels
    - Poems and plays
    - Non-fiction and reference books
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## Writing

Children will learn to:

- Plan, draft, write, and edit their own work.
- Use **joined handwriting** consistently.
- Write in a range of styles, including:
  - Stories and descriptive writing
  - Instructions and explanations

- Reports and recounts
  - Poetry
  - Organise writing with **clear sentences and paragraphs**.
  - Develop their own **writer's voice** by using ambitious vocabulary.
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## Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling (GPS)

Focus areas include:

- Using **capital letters, full stops, question marks, and exclamation marks** correctly.
  - Introducing **commas in lists** and **apostrophes** for possession and contractions.
  - Expanding sentences with **conjunctions, adverbs, and prepositions**.
  - Spelling using Year 3/4 word lists and spelling rules (prefixes, suffixes, word families).
  - Using dictionaries and word banks to check spelling and meaning.
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## Spoken Language

Children will:

- Take part in **class discussions, debates, and presentations**.
  - Retell stories and explain ideas clearly.
  - Ask and answer questions to deepen understanding.
  - Use standard English in formal situations.
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## How Parents Can Help at Home

- Read with your child every day — talk about the story and characters.
  - Encourage them to keep a **journal, diary, or scrapbook** to practise writing.
  - Play word games and spelling challenges to make learning fun.
  - Model good spoken language — encourage full sentences and clear explanations.
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✨ By the end of Year 3, children should be reading fluently, writing with growing independence, and confidently expressing their ideas in speech and writing.